

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 335

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AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS TEHRAN 1722

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CENTO, IR

SUBJ: CENTO SCIENTIFIC COORDINATING BOARD, FEB 16-18, 1975

1. SUMMARY: THE CENTO SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM, THOUGH MODEST, IS PICKING UP MOMENTUM, AS SHOWN BY AN ENCOURAGING INCREASE IN PROPOSALS, GREATER SELECTIVITY IN PROJECTS RECEIVING SUPPORT, AND CRITICAL REVIEW OF RESULTS PRIOR TO APPROVAL FOR CONTINUATION. END SUMMARY.

2. UNLESS THOSE IN USG FOLLOWING CENTO SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES PROTEST, SCIATT WILL INDICATE AT NEXT SCB THAT USG FEELS SCB HAS POWER TO APPROVE INITIAL EXPENDITURE ON ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO DEVELOP INTO LONG-TERM PROJECTS. THE CSER WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW SUCH DECISIONS ANNUALLY, SO THERE IS LITTLE RISK OF UNWANTED COMMITMENTS.

3. ALL NEW PROPOSALS, INCLUDING THOSE FOR VISITS, WERE SUBMITTED IN THE STANDARD FORMAT WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED AT THE LAST CSER, BUT IN GENERAL THE INFORMATION PROVIDED WAS STILL TOO SCANTY TO JUDGE THE MERITS OF THE PROPOSAL ADEQUATELY. AT SCIATT INSTIGATION MORE INFORMATION IS BEING SOUGHT, PARTICULARLY ON COMMUNICATION BETWEEN REGIONAL COUNTRIES PRIOR TO PROPOSALS FOR VISITS OR COLLABORATIVE WORK.

4. MEETING ON OPTIMUM USE OF WATER IN AGRICULTURE IS CONFIRMED
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FOR LYALLPUR, MARCH 3-5.

5. NUCLEAR POWER EXPERTS' MEETING TO BE HELD APRIL 22-25 IN ISLAMABAD. PARTICIPATION BY US EXPERT DR FALLS OR SOMEONE OF SIMILAR STATURE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

6. SOLAR ENERGY SYMPOSIUM SUGGESTED FOR MAY TO BE POSTPONED PENDING BETTER DEFINITION OF AGENDA.

7. FOLLOWING FOUR SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS ANTICIPATED FOR PERIOD JUNE-OCTOBER 1975: (1) DOCUMENTATION CENTERS COORDINATORS' MEETING, POSSIBLY ANKARA IN JUNE (2) PANEL ON MINIMIZATION OF EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS, POSSIBLY TEHRAN IN AUGUST (3) COURSE ON CEREALS ANALYSIS, POSSIBLY IZMIR IN OCTOBER; AND (4) PANEL ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS OF LIQUID EFFLUENTS, POSSIBLY KARACHI IN OCTOBER.

8. DATE OF NEXT SCB, JUNE 2 AND 4, AND ONE FOLLOWING, PROBABLY LATTER HALF SEPTEMBER. NEXT CSER, NOV 10-12 IN ANKARA.
HELMS

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